

Webster's II

New College Dictionary



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whose surface design lines have been hand engraved. b. The process of making such an engraving. c. A print made from such an engraving. 2. A line cut.

line-man (lin'man) *n.* 1. One employed to install or repair telephone, telegraph, or electric power lines. 2. *Football.* A player on the forward line.

lin-en (lin'an) *n.* [ME < *linen*, of cloth < OE *linen* < Lat. *linum*, thread.] 1. a. Thread made from fibers of the flax plant. b. Cloth woven from this thread. 2. Articles or garments made from linen or similar material. 3. Paper made from flax fibers or given a linenlike luster. — *adj.* 1. Made of linen or flax. 2. Like linen.

line of credit *n.* CREDIT LINE 2.

line of force *n.* A theoretical line in a field of force, any tangent to which gives the direction of the field at the point of tangency.

line of scrimmage *n.* *Football.* An imaginary line across the field on which the ball rests and at which the teams line up for a new play.

line of sight *n.* 1. An imaginary line from the eye to the object being looked at. 2. An unobstructed path between electronic sending and receiving antennas.

lin-e-o-late (lin'e-ə-lāt') *adj.* [NLat. *lineolatus* < Lat. *lineola*, little line, dim. of *linea*, line < *linum*, thread.] Marked with fine lines.

line printer *n.* A high-speed printing device, used chiefly in data processing, that prints an entire line of type as a unit rather than printing each character individually.

lin-er (li'nar) *n.* 1. One that draws or makes lines. 2. A commercial ship or aircraft, esp. one carrying passengers on a regular route. 3. *Baseball.* A line drive.

lin-er (li'nar) *n.* 1. One who makes or puts in linings. 2. Something used as a lining.

line score *n.* *Baseball.* An inning-by-inning record of the runs, hits, and errors of a game.

lines-man (linz'man) *n.* 1. a. *Football.* An official who marks the downs and the position of the ball and watches for certain violations from the sidelines. b. An official in various court games whose chief duty is to call shots that fall out of bounds. 2. LINEMAN 1.

line spectrum *n.* A spectrum composed of a set of discrete, rather narrow lines.

line squall *n.* *Naut.* A squall occurring along a narrow band of thunderstorms.

line storm *n.* An equinoctial storm.

line-up also **line-up** (lin'up) *n.* 1. A line of persons formed for inspection or identification. 2. a. The players of a team chosen to start a game. b. A list of such players. 3. A group of persons or things arrayed or enlisted for a specific purpose.

ling (ling) *n., pl. ling or lings.* [ME.] One of various marine food fishes related to or resembling the cod.

ling (ling) *n.* [ME < ON *lyng*.] HEATHER 1.

-ling *suffix* [ME < OE.] 1. One connected with <worldling> 2. One having a specified quality <underling> 3. One that is young, small, or inferior <duckling>

-ling *suffix* [ME < OE.] In a given direction, manner, or condition <darkling>

lin-gam (ling'gam) also **lin-ga** (-gə) *n.* [Skt. *lingam*, penis.] A stylized phallus worshipped as a symbol of the Hindu god Shiva.

ling-cod (ling'kod) *n., pl. lingcod or -cods.* A food fish, *Ophiodon elongatus* of northern Pacific waters.

lin-ger (ling'gar) *v. -gered, -ger-ing, -gers.* [ME *lengeren* < *lenger*, longer < OE *lengra*.] — *vi.* 1. To delay in quitting or leaving something: TARRY. 2. To remain very close to death for some time before dying. 3. To persist <a feeling that still lingers> 4. To move slowly: AMBLE. 5. To be tardy in acting: PROCRASTINATE. — *vt.* To pass (time) in a leisurely way. — **lin-ger-er** *n.* — **lin-ger-ing-ly** *adv.*

lin-ge-rie (län'zha-rä', län'zha-rè) *n.* [Fr. < *linge*, linen < Lat. *linea*, made of linen < *linum*, thread.] 1. Women's underwear. 2. *Archaic.* Linen articles, esp. garments.

lin-go (ling'gō) *n., pl. -goes.* [Prob. Port. *lingoa* < Lat. *lingua*, language.] Unintelligible or unfamiliar language, esp.: a. A foreign language. b. The specialized vocabulary of a particular field or discipline <computer lingo>

lin-gon-ber-ry (ling'an-bēr'è) *n.* [Swed. *lingon*, a kind of berry + *BERRY*.] COWBERRY 2.

lin-gua (ling'gwə) *n., pl. -guae (-gwē')* [Lat.] A tongue or tongue-like organ.

lingua fran-ca (fräng'kə) *n., pl. lingua fran-cas (-kəz)* also **linguae fran-cae** (ling'gwē fräng'kē) [Ital.] 1. A mixture of Italian with French, Spanish, Arabic, Greek, and Turkish, spoken in the Mediterranean area, esp. in the Levant. 2. A language used as a medium of communication between peoples who speak different languages. 3. Something similar to a common language.

lin-gual (ling'gwəl) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or like the tongue or a tongue-like organ. 2. Pronounced with the tongue in conjunction with other organs of speech. 3. Linguistic. — *n.* A sound articulated with the tongue in conjunction with other organs of speech, as the sounds (t), (l), and (n). — **lin-gual-ly** *adv.*

lin-gui-ne also **lin-gui-ni** (ling'gwē'nē) *n.* [Ital. < *lingua*, tongue < Lat.] (*sing. in number*). Pasta in long, flat, thin strands.

lin-guist (ling'gwist) *n.* [Lat. *lingua*, language + -IST.] 1. A fluent speaker of several languages. 2. A specialist in linguistics.

lin-guis-tic (ling'gwist'ik) *adj.* Of or relating to language or linguistics. — **lin-guis-ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

linguistic atlas *n.* A set of maps recording the geographic distribution of speech variations.

linguistic form *n.* A meaningful unit of speech, as an affix, phrase, or sentence.

linguistic geography *n.* The study of regional speech variations. — **linguistic geographer** *n.*

lin-guis-tics (ling'gwist'iks) *n. (sing. in number).* The study of the nature and structure of language.

lin-gu-late (ling'gyə-lāt') *adj.* [Lat. *lingulatus* < *lingula*, little tongue, dim. of *lingua*.] Shaped like a tongue.

lin-i-ment (lin'i-mant) *n.* [ME < LLat. *linimentum* < Lat. *linere*, rub over.] A medicinal fluid applied to the skin as an anodyne or counterirritant.

li-nin (li'nin) *n.* [Lat. *linum*, thread.] The filamentous, achromatic material in a cell nucleus that interconnects the chromatin granules.

lin-ing (li'ning) *n.* 1. a. An interior coating or covering. b. Material used for such coating or covering. 2. Application of a lining.

link (link) *n.* [ME *linke*, of Scand. orig.] 1. One of the rings or loops forming a chain. 2. Something resembling a chain link in its physical arrangement or its connecting function, esp.: a. One of several sausages strung together. b. A unit in a transportation or communication system. c. A single connecting element. 3. A cuff link. 4. A unit of length used in surveying, equal to 0.01 chain, 7.92 inches, or approximately 20.12 centimeters. 5. A lever or rod transmitting motion in a machine. 6. *Computer Sci.* A pointer attached to an item in a data set or program to facilitate connection to other items. — *vt.* *vi.* **linked, link-ing, links.** To connect or become connected with or as if with links. — **link'er** *n.*

link (link) *n.* [Poss. < Med. Lat. *linchinus*, candle < Lat. *lynchnus* < Gk. *lukhnos*.] A torch once used for lighting one's way in the streets.

link-age (ling'kij) *n.* 1. An act of linking or the state of being linked. 2. A system of interconnected machine parts, as rods, springs, and pivots, for transmitting power or motion. 3. A measure of the induced voltage in a circuit caused by a magnetic flux and equal to the flux times the number of turns in the coil surrounding it. 4. *Genetics.* A relationship between two or more nonallelic genes occupying the same chromosome that causes them to have closely associated inherited effects. 5. A diplomatic negotiating strategy holding that progress on one issue is an essential element for progress on other issues <"We saw linkage . . . as synonymous with an overall strategic and geopolitical view"> — Henry Kissinger>

linked (linkt) *adj.* 1. Connected by or as if by links. 2. *Genetics.* Exhibiting linkage. 3. *Computer Sci.* Provided with links.

linking verb *n.* COPULA 1.

links (linkz) *pl. n.* [ME < OE *hlinca*, pl. of *hlinc*, ridge.] 1. A golf course. 2. *Scot.* Sandy undulating ground usu. on a seashore.

link-up (link'up) *n.* 1. An instance of meeting or contact, as of two spacecraft. 2. a. Something serving to join or link. b. A functional unit derived from the linking up of separate elements.

linn (lin) *n.* [Sc. Gael. *linne*.] *Scot.* 1. A waterfall. 2. A steep ravine.

Lin-nae-an also **Lin-ne-an** (li-nē'an) *adj.* Of or relating to Linnaeus or his system of taxonomic classification and nomenclature.

lin-net (lin'it) *n.* [OFr. *linette* < *lin*, flax < Lat. *linum*.] A small Old World songbird, *Acanthis cannabina*, with brownish plumage.

lin-o-le-ic acid (lin'ə-lē'ik) *n.* [Gk. *linon*, flax + *oleic acid*.] A colorless to straw-colored liquid, $C_{18}H_{32}O_2$, an important component of drying oils and an essential fatty acid in the human diet.

lin-o-len-ic acid (lin'ə-lēn'ik) *n.* [Alteration of *linoleic acid*.] A colorless liquid, $C_{18}H_{32}O_2$, an important component of natural drying oils and an essential fatty acid in the human diet.

li-no-le-um (li-nō-lē-am) *n.* [Orig. a trademark.] A durable material made in sheets by pressing a mixture of heated linseed oil, rosin, powdered cork, and pigments onto a burlap or canvas backing, used chiefly as a floor covering.

Li-no-type (li'nə-tip') *n.* A trademark for a machine that sets type on a metal slug, operated by a keyboard.

lin-sang (lin'sang') *n.* [Malay.] An Asian or African carnivorous mammal of the genera *Protonotris* or *Prionodon*, with a spotted coat and a long haired tail.

lin-seed (lin'sēd') *n.* [ME *linsed* < OE *linsæd* < *lin*, flax < Lat. *linum* + *sæd*, seed.] The seed of flax, esp. when used as the source of linseed oil: FLAXSEED.

linseed oil *n.* A yellowish oil extracted from flaxseeds, used as a drying oil in varnishes and paints and in printing inks, linoleum, and synthetic resins.

lin-sey-wool-sey (lin'zē-wōol'zē) *n., pl. -seys.* [ME *linsi-wolsie*.] A rough linen or cotton fabric woven with wool.

lin-stock (lin'stōk') *n.* [Du. *lonstok*: *lont*, match + *stok*, stick.] A long forked stick once used to hold a lighted match to fire a cannon.

lint (lint) *n.* [ME < Med. Lat. *linteum* < Lat., linen cloth < *linum*, flax.] 1. Clinging bits of fluff and fiber: FUZZ. 2. Downy material ob-

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counterweight (koun'ter-wät') *n.* A weight used as a counterbalance. — **counterweight**'ed (-wä'tid) *adj.*
counterword *n.* A word, as *nice* or *awful*, frequently used without regard to its precise meaning.
count-ess (koun'tis) *n.* [ME *countes* < OFr. *contesse*, fem. of *conte*, count. — see **COUNT**.] 1. a. The wife or widow of a count in various European countries. b. The wife or widow of an earl in Great Britain. 2. A woman holding the title of count or earl in her own right.
counting-house (koun'ting-hous') *also* **counting house** *n.* An office in which a company carries on operations such as accounting and correspondence.
counting room *n.* A countinghouse.
count-less (koun'tlis) *adj.* Too numerous to be counted : INFINITE. — **count-less-ly** *adv.*
count noun *n.* A noun, as *chair* or *pea*, that can form a plural and be used in a noun phrase construction with the indefinite article, with such terms as *many*, or with numerals.
count palatine *n.* PALATINE¹ 3.
count-ri-fied *also* **count-ry-fied** (kūn'tri-fid') *adj.* 1. Resembling or typical of country life : RUSTIC. 2. Lacking in sophistication.
count-ry (kūn'trē) *n., pl. -tries*. [ME *countre* < OFr. *contree* < Llat. *contrata* < Lat. *contra*, opposite.] 1. A large tract of land distinguishable by features of topography, biology, or culture <farming country>. 2. An area outside cities and towns. 3. a. A nation or state. b. The territory of a nation or state : LAND. c. The people of a nation or state. 4. The land of a person's birth or citizenship. 5. Law. A jury.
country and western *n.* Country music.
country club *n.* A club with facilities for golf and other outdoor sports and social activities.
country cousin *n.* One whose ingenuousness or rustic ways may embarrass or amuse city dwellers.
count-ry-dance (kūn'trē-dāns') *n.* A folk dance originating in England in which two lines of dancers face each other.
count-ry-fied (kūn'tri-fid') *adj.* *var.* OF COUNTRIFIED.
country gentleman *n.* 1. The owner of a country estate. 2. *often* Country Gentleman. A corn with small, sweet white kernels.
country-man (kūn'trē-mān) *n.* 1. A person from one's own country : COMPATRIOT. 2. A person from a specific country. 3. A man who lives in the country.
country music *n.* A style of popular music based on folk music of the rural United States, esp. of the southern or southwestern United States.
country-seat (kūn'trē-sēt') *n.* An estate or house in the country.
country-side (kūn'trē-sīd') *n.* 1. A rural region. 2. The residents of a rural region.
count-ry-wom-an (kūn'trē-wōm'an) *n.* 1. A woman from one's own country : COMPATRIOT. 2. A woman from a specific country. 3. A woman who lives in the country.
count-ty (koun'tē) *n., pl. -ties*. [ME *counte*, territorial division < AN *counte* < OFr. *conte*, the territory of a count < Med. Lat. *comitatus* < Llat., an office of state < Lat., retinue < *comes*, companion.] 1. An administrative subdivision of a U.S. state. 2. A British or Irish territorial division having administrative, judicial, and political powers and functions. 3. The people living in a country. 4. The territory under the jurisdiction of a count or earl.
county fair *n.* A fair usu. held every year in a county.
county palatine *n.* The domain of a count palatine.
county seat *n.* A municipality that is the center of government in its county.
county town *n.* Chiefly Brit. A county seat.
coup (kōp) *n., pl. coups* (kōps) [Fr. stroke < OFr. < Llat. *colpus* < Lat. *colaphus* < Gk. *kolaphos*.] 1. A brilliantly conceived and executed stratagem : MASTERSTROKE. 2. A coup d'état.
coup de grâce (kōp' də grās') *n.* [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *grace*, mercy.] 1. A deathblow delivered to end the misery of one that is mortally wounded. 2. A finishing or decisive act or event.
coup de main (kōp' də mān') *n.* [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *main*, hand.] A sudden action to surprise an enemy.
coup d'état (kōp' də tā') *n.* [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *état*, state.] A sudden overthrow of a government in deliberate violation of constitutional forms by a group of persons in or previously in positions of authority.
coup de thé-â-tre (kōp' də tā-ā'trē) *n.* [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *théâtre*, theatre.] A sudden, unexpected, and dramatic event, esp. one that reverses a given situation.
coup d'oeil (kōp' də œy') *n.* [Fr. : *coup*, stroke + *de*, of + *oeil*, eye.] A quick survey or glance.
coupe (kōp) *n.* [Fr. *cup* < Llat. *cuppa*.] 1. a. A dessert of ice cream or fruit-flavored ice, garnished and served in a special dessert glass. b. The tall, narrow, usu. stemmed glass in which a coupe is served. 2. A shallow, bowl-shaped dessert dish.
coupe (kōp) *n.* *var.* OF COUPÉ 2.
cou-pé (kōp-pā') *n.* [Fr. < p.prt. of *couper*, to cut < *coup*, blow. — see **COUP**.] 1. A closed four-wheel carriage with two seats inside and

one outside. 2. *also* **coupe** (kōp). A closed automobile with two doors.

cou-ple (kūp'əl) *n.* [ME < OFr. < Lat. *copula*, bond.] 1. Two items of the same kind : PAIR. 2. Something that unites or connects two things together : LINK. 3. (*sing. or pl. in number*). a. Two people united, as by marriage or betrothal. *usage*: When referring to two people who form a social unit, *couple* may be used with either a singular or a plural verb. Whatever the choice, *usage* should be consistent: *The newlywed couple is (or are) spending its (or their) honeymoon in Europe*. b. Two people together. 4. A few : some <a couple of hours>. 5. Physics. A pair of forces of equal magnitude acting in parallel but opposite directions, capable of causing rotation but not translation. — *v.* -pled, -pling, -ples. — *vt.* 1. To link together : CONNECT <coupled my excuse with an apology>. 2. a. To join as spouses : MARRY. b. To join in sexual union. 3. *Elect.* To link (two circuits or currents) as by magnetic induction. — *vi.* 1. To form pairs : JOIN. 2. To copulate. 3. To unite chemically.

★ *syns*: COUPLE, BRACE, DOUBLET, PAIR *n.* *core meaning* : two of the same kind together <a couple of songs> COUPLE also can mean two closely associated persons <a married couple> PAIR stresses the close association and often reciprocal dependence of things <a pair of gloves>; sometimes it means a single thing with two interdependent parts <a pair of scissors> BRACE and DOUBLET refer to two like things <a brace of pistols> <a doublet of grouse shot on the moors>

cou-pler (kūp'lər) *n.* 1. One that couples. 2. A device for coupling two railroad cars. 3. A device connecting two organ keyboards so they may be played together.

cou-plet (kūp'lit) *n.* [OFr., dim. of *couple*, couple.] 1. A unit of verse made up of two successive lines, usu. rhyming and having the same meter. 2. Two similar things : PAIR.

cou-pling (kūp'ling) *n.* 1. The act or process of forming couples. 2. The act of copulating. 3. Something that unites or connects, as a railroad coupler. 4. The part of the body connecting the hindquarters and forequarters of a four-footed animal.

cou-pon (kōp'pōn', kyōp'-) *n.* [Fr. < OFr. *colpon*, piece cut off < *colper*, to cut < *coup*, blow. — see **COUP**.] 1. A negotiable certificate attached to a bond that represents a sum of interest due. 2. a. A detachable part, as of a ticket or advertisement, entitling the bearer to specific benefits, as a gift or cash refund. b. A printed form, as in an advertisement, used for ordering merchandise or requesting information. 3. A detachable slip calling for periodic payments, as for merchandise bought on an installment plan.

cour-age (kūr'ij, kūr'-) *n.* [ME *corage* < OFr. < *cuer*, heart < Lat. *cor*.] The quality or state of mind or spirit enabling one to face danger or hardship with confidence and resolution : BRAVERY.

cou-ra-geous (kō-rā'jās) *adj.* Having or marked by courage : BRAVE. — **cou-ra-geous-ly** *adv.* — **cou-ra-geous-ness** *n.*

cou-rante (kō-rānt') *n.* [Fr. < fem. p.prt. of *courir*, to run < OFr. *courre* < Lat. *currere*.] 1. A 17th cent. French dance in which running and gliding steps are performed to an accompaniment in triple time. 2. The second movement of the classical suite, typically following the allemande.

cour-gette (kōr-zhēt') *n.* [Dial. Fr., dim. of *courge*, gourd < OFr. < Lat. *cucurbita*.] Chiefly Brit. A zucchini.

cou-ri-er (kōr'ē-ər, kūr'-, kūr'-) *n.* [OFr. *courrier* < Ital. *corriere* < *correre*, to run < Lat. *currere*.] 1. A messenger, esp. one on official diplomatic business. 2. A personal attendant hired to make arrangements for a journey.

cour-lan (kōr'lan) *n.* [Fr., alteration of *courlier* < Galibi *kurliri*.] The limpin.

course (kōrs, kōrs) *n.* [ME *cours* < OFr. < Lat. *cursus* < *currere*, to run.] 1. Onward movement in a particular direction : PROGRESS. 2. The direction of continuing movement <sailed a westward course>. 3. The route or path taken by something, as a river, that moves or flows. 4. A designated section of land or water on which a race is held or a sport played <a golf course>. 5. Movement in time : DURATION <in the course of a week>. 6. A way of acting or behaving <choose the wisest course>. 7. A typical or normal manner of proceeding : regular development. 8. A systematic or orderly succession : SEQUENCE <a course of therapeutic treatments>. 9. A continuous layer of building material, as brick or tile, on a roof or wall of a structure. 10. a. A body of prescribed studies constituting a curriculum and leading toward an advanced degree. b. A unit of such a curriculum. 11. A portion of a meal served as a unit at one time. 12. The lowest sail on a mast of a square-rigged ship. 13. A point on the compass, esp. the one toward which a ship is sailing. — *v.* **coursed**, **cours-ing**, **cours-es**. — *vt.* 1. To move rapidly through or over : TRAVERSE <ships coursing the open seas>. 2. a. To hunt (game) with hounds. b. To set (hounds) to follow game. — *vi.* 1. To follow a direction. 2. a. To move rapidly : RACE. b. To run : flow <tears coursing down one's cheeks>. 3. To hunt game with hounds. — *in due course*. At the right or proper time. — *of course*. 1. In the natural order of things : NATURALLY. 2. Having no doubt : CERTAINLY.

cours-er (kōr'sər, kōr'-) *n.* A dog trained for coursing.

cours-er (kōr'sər, kōr'-) *n.* A swift horse : CHARGER.

cours-ing (kōr'sing, kōr'-) *n.* The sport of hunting with dogs trained to chase game by sight instead of scent.

court (kōrt, kōrt) *n.* [ME < OFr. *cort* < Lat. *cohors*.] 1. A tract of open

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